

Backlit badges and logos

Purpose

This guide provides advice to the heavy vehicle owners and modifiers about the fitment and use of backlit badges and logos on heavy vehicles.

Introduction

The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has recently issued clarification about the fitting of backlit badges and logos to vehicles, allowing these to be fitted if they meet certain requirements.

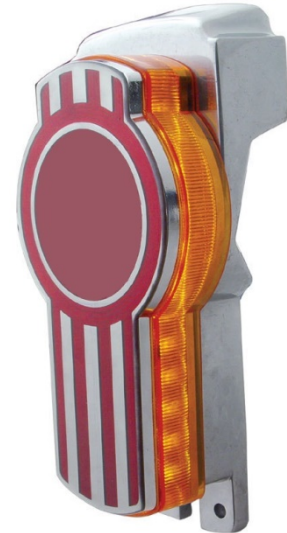
To align with this clarification, the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) has issued an exemption notice to allow the fitment and use of backlit badges and logos on in-service vehicles.

The fitment of backlit badges and logos to a heavy vehicle is a minor modification and **does not require approval** from an Approved Vehicle Examiner (AVE) or the NHVR. The vehicle must continue to be within the manufacturer's specifications and comply with the national heavy vehicle safety standards.

Requirements

A heavy vehicle may be fitted with one or more backlit badges or logos (BLB), provided they meet the following requirements:

- the light source is integrated within, and contained completely within the dimensions of, the BLB
- the BLB must only show:
 - white or yellow to the front of the vehicle; or
 - yellow to the side of the vehicle; or
 - red or yellow to the rear of the vehicle
- the BLB must not be any colour other than red, white or yellow
- the BLB must not have a light intensity of more than 60 candela
- the BLB must be constant and not flash or change luminous intensity in any way
- the BLB is at least 200mm away from any other light on the vehicle
- the illuminated part of the BLB must not be visible to the driver of the vehicle when in the normal seated driving position, whether it is visible directly or by reflection.
- the BLB must not be so large that it negatively impacts the prominence of any mandatory light (headlamp, direction indication etc.)
- the BLB is connected so that it only operates with the vehicle's front lighting system (daytime running, parking and head lamps). A separate switch may be used to allow the badge or logo to be turned off independently, provided it only comes on when a light in the front lighting system is on.



Non-compliant backlight badges or logos

Backlit badges or logos that do not comply with the requirements above are non-compliant lights and are prohibited under the Heavy Vehicle National Law. Fitting of non-compliant light is a contravention of the *Heavy Vehicle (Vehicle Standards) National Regulation* and makes a vehicle defective.

Complying with the national heavy vehicle safety standards

The operator of a heavy vehicle must ensure that their vehicle complies with the ADRs and *Heavy Vehicle (Vehicle Standards) National Regulation*. Using or permitting another person to use a defective heavy vehicle on a road is an offence.

A defective heavy vehicle is a vehicle that:

- does not comply with the heavy vehicle safety standards; or
- has a part that does not perform its intended function; or
- has deteriorated to an extent that it cannot be reasonably relied on to perform its intended function.

Penalties can include on-the-spot fines or prosecution. Formal warnings or a defect notice may also be issued. For more information see the *Heavy vehicle defects—Compliance and enforcement bulletin* at www.nhvr.gov.au/ce-bulletins

About the NHVR

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is Australia's dedicated independent regulator for heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes Gross Vehicle Mass.

The NHVR was created to administer one set of rules for heavy vehicles under the Heavy Vehicle National Law, improve safety and productivity, minimise the compliance burden on the heavy vehicle transport industry and reduce duplication and inconsistencies across state and territory borders.

The NHVR has a dedicated Vehicle Standards team to help with modification applications and advise on any technical aspects.

For more information:

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*Standard 1300 call charges apply. Please check with your phone provider

Please note: While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the content of this Vehicle Standards Guide, it should not be relied upon as legal advice.



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